



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

trader will venture up from the town of Barra, at the junction of the Amazon and Negro rivers, who may be able to procure a very small quantity of Balsam de Copaiba, or some gums. These traders report this tribe as inoffensive, living on fish and fruits, entirely without clothing, and killing animals with a blow gun and poisoned arrows.

The owner of one of these heads carried it with him, and when fishing, had it placed with the face towards him "for luck's sake," and it is extremely rare to get them to part with one.

These are the only ones I have ever met with from this river; those in the collection of the late Dr. Morton, presented by me, were of the tribe of Mundrucus, living between the Tapajos and Madeira rivers, and one is, I think, figured in the works of Spix and Von Martius."

March 16th.

MR. ORD, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read

From the Librarian of the British Museum, dated Feb. 24, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings, Vol. 5, No. 11.

From the Faculty of Harvard College, dated Cambridge, Feb. 27, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the Memoir of Dr. Morton by Dr. Meigs.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to five heads lying upon the table, of what were usually considered as belonging to a single species of Hippopotamus, under the name of *H. amphibius*. Two of the specimens are from North Western Africa, and three from Southern Africa. Between those of the two localities, various differences were pointed out, the most important being the existence of a single band of enamel upon the upper canines of the North Western Hippopotamus, and the band being divided into two by a space of three lines on the outer side of the posterior groove in the Southern Hippopotamus. Dr. L. therefore concluded with Desmoulins and Duvernoy, that there were two distinct species of Hippopotamus, and as that of Northern Africa was the earliest known, the name, *H. amphibius* should be retained for it, while that of the South should retain Desmoulin's name of *H. capensis*.

Dr. Le Conte mentioned that the specimens of *Casteroides Ohioensis*, presented this evening, were important, as giving a new locality to this animal. They were obtained by Dr. Feuchtwanger from a well near Shawneetown, forty feet below the surface.

Dr. Hays stated that the tooth of the fossil Tapir presented by him this evening, was found in the bed of a canal in North Carolina. It had been in his possession for several years, and was the first fossil Tapir tooth found in North America.

March 23d.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Leidy called attention to the very fine skeleton of *Troglodytes gorilla*, recently presented to the Academy by Dr. Henry A. Ford of Liberia, which is now mounted and in the Hall. The height, as it now stands, is four feet nine inches.

Mr. Lea made some remarks on the subject of the periodicity of the Family *Unionidæ*. He mentioned that some of the species matured and ejected from their oviducts the perfect shell in the autumn, others in the spring, and some apparently in the winter. He mentioned that few observations had yet been made on this interesting branch of animal economy. He had himself made some observations many years since on the *Uniones* and *Anodontæ* of our vicinity; and his brother, T. G. Lea, had, at his request, made some interesting observations of those in the vicinity of Cincinnati, part of which had been noted in the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. He then read part of a letter from Mr. Joseph Clark of Cincinnati, in which he mentions having observed the periodicity of several species within the last six months. The *Anodonta edentula*, Say, was found with oviducts fully charged in September, as were also *Unio ellipsis*, Lea, *U. irroratus*, Lea, *U. securis*, Lea, *U. foliatus*, Hild. and *U. orbiculatus*, Hild. In October he found the ova of the *Unio multiplicatus*, Lea, more than half developed, and thinks they would have been matured in the spring. In the *Unio anodontoides*, Lea, they were beautifully developed, and would probably have been matured and voided in the winter. The oviducts of the last species are bordered with a beautiful blue color.

Thus Mr. Clark's conclusions were the same as to the different periods of various species as Mr. Lea's, and there cannot be a doubt but that the terms of the species differ according to their own law.

March 30th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Committee on Mr. Lea's description of a new *Unio*, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Description of a new species of Symphynote Unio.

BY ISAAC LEA.

UNIO CUMINGII. Testa alata, plicata, triangulari, valde compressa, posticè angulata, valde inæquilaterali; alâ elevatâ, acuminatâ, margine crenulatâ; valvulis subtenuibus, antè et post nates connatis; natibus, et alæ posterioris basi apiceque undulatis; natibus compressis, ad apicem undulatis, haud prominentibus; epidermide nitidâ, tenebroso viridi, perradiatâ; dentibus cardinalibus lamellatis, lateralibus longissimis, lamellatis subcurvisque; ligamento celato; margaritâ albâ et iridescente.

Shell alate, plicate, triangular, very much compressed, angular behind, very inequilateral; wing high, acuminate, crenulate on the margin; valves rather thin, connate before and behind the beak; beaks, and the base and summit of the posterior wing undulated; beaks compressed, undulated at the tip, not prominent; epidermis shining, dark green, radiated all over; cardinal teeth lamellar; lateral teeth very long, lamellar and somewhat curved; ligament concealed; nacre white and iridescent.

Habitat northern part of China. H. Cuming, Esq.

Diam. .7, length 2.6, breadth 3.1 inches.

This very beautiful and rare *Unio* is, in form and general outline, very much like the *Dipsas plicatus*, Leach, but they cannot be confounded with each other, as they belong to very distinct genera, the *Dipsas* having but one linear tooth in each valve, while the above described shell has perfectly well defined lamellar cardinal teeth, double in the right and single in the left valve. It also has long, lamellar, lateral teeth, double in the left and single in the right valve. It differs also in the folds, having them extending over the flattened side from the beaks, in this specimen, which is not half grown, to half the length of the shell. The folds